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September 14, 2020

Ms. Marilyn Kirkpatrick  
**BOARD OF CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
500 S. Grand Central Parkway  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Las Vegas, NV 89155

Re: Southern Nevada Youth Sports

Dear Ms. Kirkpatrick,

I am writing you this letter to respectfully request your support and assistance in working with Governor Sisolak and his Covid-19 Task Force to open youth sports in Southern Nevada.

I have been a resident of Las Vegas and Clark County since 1994. I have a 14-year-old daughter, Grace, who plays volleyball and an 11 year-old-son, Logan, who plays baseball. The shutdowns and changes to our daily lives that we have all had to understandably endure during Covid has been tough on my kids, as well as most kids I am sure. Youth sports gives them both an outlet to blow off some steam, socialize with their teammates, and learn some generally good life lessons. With them not physically going to school still, youth sports are even more important in giving them a much needed "break" from the daily monotony that has been created by Covid.

As such, my son has continued to play baseball (responsibly) since the shut down – at first, it was just one on one lessons with a coach, working on hitting, fielding, and/or pitching. My daughter has intermittently had private volleyball lessons with her coach. Over time, the baseball team started having informal practices, which became more formal, as the rules allowed.

The neighboring states of Utah and Arizona started having youth baseball tournaments in May/June. Initially, our team refrained from going to these tournaments, but over the course of June/July, that changed. We attended an out of state tournament in Southern Utah in mid-July, for the first time. Since that tournament, we have attended two more tournaments in Southern Utah and another tournament in Kingman, Arizona. I have friends on other teams that have attended many more tournaments than us, dating back to at least June. I am pretty sure that on any given weekend, there is a tournament in either Arizona or Utah in which the kids from Southern Nevada could play. These tournaments are well attended by kids from Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, and California. My observations from those tournaments have been that they have been very responsibly organized and run – both tournament organizers (Utah and Arizona) have had very clear and concise rules with respect to Covid protocols, for both spectators and players. To my knowledge, there has not been a single Covid related "incident" as a result of any of these tournaments in Arizona or Utah – mind you, dating back as far as the end of May, beginning of June.

To the point that I am writing you this letter, traveling out of state is both time consuming and expensive. We have parents on our team that have lost jobs, taken pay cuts, been furloughed, and are still worrying about whether they are going to have their job tomorrow, etc. – yet we all have chosen and sacrificed to take our kids out of state to play baseball, because it is the right thing to do for them. Youth sports memories and lessons are something that our children will never get back, should they miss it. There is not an adult out there that played youth sports that doesn't think back to the memory of the homerun they hit in the championship little league game or the diving save they made in the volleyball tournament, or maybe just the friends and comradery that they had while playing sports.

We are traveling out of state to play baseball tournaments now, much to the sacrifice of the parents, and much to the financial benefits of the towns of Cedar City, Beaver, and St. George, Utah, or Kingman and Wickenburg, Arizona. That is why I am asking you to please open youth sports again in Southern Nevada. It has been shown that it can be done and is being done successfully every weekend in Utah and Arizona. Our children (and parents for that matter) need this.

Please feel free to reach out to me should you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Grubbs", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christopher R. Grubbs, P.E.

To whom it may concern:

I am a lifelong resident of Las Vegas who has three children aged 11, 14, and 16. The Covid pandemic has been very difficult on our family, but especially on our three children Ruby, Sofia, and Zachary. They have basically been stuck at home without much interaction with their friends, teachers, or sports coaches. I have noticed the absence of on campus school and youth sports has had on their development, learning, and social skills. My 16 year old daughter runs track and my 11 year old son participates in youth baseball for the Las Vegas Lightning. From mid-March until mid-June he was not able to participate due to Covid restrictions. Starting in mid-June he has been able to practice with his team, but in order to play games we have had to travel to Utah or Arizona. Not only is this an inconvenience, but it has been very challenging for us as the cost of the travel and accommodations is trying during these tough economic times. As parents we feel that sports is so important to our kids and their development that we have done everything in our power to make this travel a reality for Zachary. Unfortunately our 16 year old daughter has not been able to go back to running track for her high school. It is our opinion that opening youth sports in Nevada would go a long way towards helping our children feel some sort of normalcy in their lives and really help further their development. Further it would be safer for them and the local community to not have to travel out of state for their games. Having their sports back would also free up more time for me and my wife to be able to work more and keep paying our bills until the pandemic subsides.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Richard Tavano', written over a horizontal line.

Richard Tavano 9-14-20

9/14/20

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter regarding the support of re-opening youth sports. Youth sports and activities are vital to our young people during this challenging time. Youth sports create confidence, self-discipline, friendships, and promote social and emotional relationships. During this pandemic, our children have suffered. The children have been kept in the house for 6 months. We are now engaged in distance learning, where our children are inside the house and working at a computer for 6 hours or more. They have no physical activity. This is not good for our children's development!

Currently, to have our kids engaged in youth sports we have to travel to Utah or Arizona to play any sports. This is unfair and costly to parents, but we feel obligated for our children's well-being. My sons are athletes and not having sports and their friends to interact with, is taking a toll on them. We have to consider the children's emotional state. Also, Utah and Arizona states have found a way to play and keep children safe. Why can't the State of Nevada do the same? Why can't we practice the same CDC guidelines that casinos and local businesses have put in place?

I am in favor of the re-opening of youth sports here in Nevada. The children have suffered enough during this pandemic. Our children have missed so much and its effecting their growth and development. Please re-open youth sports and let the children live again and play again. Let them, be happy! This is the least that we could do for them.

Sincerely,

Terrelle Chandler

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Ennis Wesley <ennis@jamonit.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 1:48 PM  
**To:** Lawerence Weekly; District B CC  
**Subject:** Return To Play For Youth Sports:

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon, this is Ennis Wesley from Jam On It Sportsplex. I got word that Commissioner Bob Lucy was putting together a panel of event operators from Northern Nevada to discuss youth sports. If there is such a panel here in the Southern Nevada, I would much appreciate being apart of it. Thank you very much and look forward to ur reply. My email is ennis@jamonit.org, cell # 702-807-5404. Have a great day!

Ennis Wesley  
Sent from my iPhone

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Lisa Lambert <lambertbabes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 11, 2020 12:08 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Letter for Playing Volleyball

Govenor Sisolak,

I am writing you today to let you know why playing volleyball is so important for my daughter. My daughter Rilee is 14 years old a freshman in high school and has been playing volleyball since the second grade. She played a few other sports here and there but realized after playing a couple of years that volleyball was her true heart and passion. After many years of hard work and dedication she made a full travel volleyball team at a local club in Las Vegas. This would mean traveling to Hawaii, Chicago, and Colorado to play volleyball. She had amazing tournament play in Hawaii and Colorado but Chicago was they one she was most looking forward to. Not because it's a cool city to visit but because of the level of competition something she has never seen before and then COVID-19 took over. Needless to say her Chicago tournament was cancelled. I thought she would be crushed but she handled it like the champ she is realizing everyone's health and safety was a priority. Then the news came that she would no longer be able to practice volleyball because her gym was closed due to COVID. Yet another blow that she handled better then I did as an adult. She decided this wouldn't get the best of her. She practiced outside for hours with a basball pitching net and woke up every morning for runs and self conditioning just hoping for the rest of her season.

Rilee and her team were finally allowed back in the gym for practices with strict COVID guidelines which she welcomed and we complied with. This would mean for me as a parent no longer being able to be a spectator doing my favorite thing in the world watching my girl play. They practiced so hard for upcoming pending tournaments in Phoenix and Las Vegas, a light at the end of the tunnel but those to were cancelled. This is now in June and all we have is high school volleyball to prepare for, something she has longed for since she was little. The opportunity to play for the same coach and school as I her mother did. Things were looking good and we were even allowed to do conditioning training outside which most kids would dread but not mine she was ready to go bright and early at 6am. Then the news came that schools would be virtual and we knew the dreaded notification on of high school season being cancelled or postponed was looming. That was probably the biggest blow she took during all of this no high school season in the fall and it's now moved to 6 weeks at the beginning of next year.

Enough is enough these kids cannot take anymore blows before they give up because I know I would have by now. I would not have been motivated to keep going like she has and is still continuing to do. All I can say is I'm one proud mama. If this means playing and no spectators then that's what it means, let them play! They follow all the guidelines they are asked to do even if that means not traveling anywhere or going on a fun activity because of the risk, they still comply. Rilee has said to me mom if people can go gamble and hang out in the casinos then why can't I play volleyball? How do you answer that question are you able to give me the answer? This is an extremely difficult time to be a parent and then to be an parent of an athlete who can't play the sport they live for, it's impossible. I wouldn't wish this on anyone.

I am respectfully asking for you to consider letting volleyball players be able to please be able to play competitively so they can just have some sort of normal, focus and drive back in their lives.

Lisa Lambert

## **Jim Gibson**

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**From:** JEROMY OBLAD <joblad@embarqmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 11, 2020 11:20 AM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Cc:** j2bkoblad  
**Subject:** Our Children Need Youth Sports Now

Good Morning Governor or whom ever this may concern,

I am the father of 3 Nevada athletes who have benefited greatly from youth sports in their lives. I've been asked to write a letter, urging the need for youth sports in Nevada, so I will essentially state the obvious.

My oldest daughter abruptly came home from her professional volleyball season in Hungary this past March and had been in a holding pattern for the past 6 months. She was awarded a visa to France last week, jumped on a plane Saturday morning, and is actually playing professional volleyball in France as we speak. Her life is back on track, she is competing, improving, chasing her life-long dreams, just like every child of Nevada SHOULD BE DOING.

My son plays football for UNLV and is battling depression, despair, and whatever other feelings of hopelessness he encounters as he watches the rest of the country enjoy college football games, while his peers at other universities are allowed to practice, improve, compete, & chase their dreams they've been chasing their entire lives, while he & his teammates sit and wait. Football has many, many risks for players and parents to worry about, dealing with a virus doesn't even crack the top 10 in our list of our concerns.

My 2 older children are competing professionally & collegiality because they participated and improved themselves through youth competitions.

My youngest daughter is 12 years old and she had her 2019/2020 club volleyball season taken from her in March, and has not been allowed to compete since that point (in addition to losing all interaction with her school friends, teachers, & associates).

My youngest daughter needs to compete, she needs to be normal again, youth volleyball competitions present absolutely no risk to her life, however, the risk of her life trajectory plummeting because she has nothing to look forward to, nothing to push her to improve herself, no reason to not feel hopeless that this HELL will ever change is very real. The risk to her mental well being, and the mental well being of our youth all over the state is very real, and the risk of falling into depression, drugs, & loss of self worth is far greater and causes this father far more concern & fear than a virus ever could. Adults in Nevada political positions stating over and over again that this is the "new normal" is very alarming to a 12 year old who is hearing that her "new normal" is life with no sports OR interacting with her friends at school, it has become beyond overwhelming.

It is imperative that all Nevada children have the opportunity to compete and interact with others NOW. Sitting in the living room staring at other class-mates on a lap-top for 6 hours a day is ridiculous and many of our youth are looking over the edge of a cliff from which they cannot rescue themselves, should they fall or choose to jump. Youth sports can and will push many of our youth away from that cliff, it will provide an opportunity to forget about whatever is dragging them down, and

it will build self worth, confidence, and the desire to press forward, even when they get knocked down. If you do not believe our youth in Nevada are struggling, then you are listening to the wrong voices.

Thank you,

J Jeromy Oblad  
Broker / President  
Allen Properties Inc  
office: 702 233-6111  
fax: 702 947-7996

[www.allenpropertieslv.com](http://www.allenpropertieslv.com)  
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joblad@embarqmail.com  
OR  
jjoblad@gmail.com



September 10, 2020

STATE OF NEVADA  
Office of the Governor  
101 North Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701  
(775) 684-5672

Karlee Phelps  
karleephelps@me.com  
(626)616-6823

## PETITION TO REOPEN LAS VEGAS PLAYGROUNDS

### FACTS

On March 12, 2020, Governor Stephen Sisolak issued a Declaration of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On March 24, Governor Sisolak issued Emergency Directive 07 giving local governments authority to close playgrounds. On March 30, City of Las Vegas closed all playgrounds.

On April 30, Governor Sisolak released the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* which included a phased approach to reopening Nevada and the creation of the Local Empowerment Advisory Panel ("LEAP"). On May 9, Nevada entered Phase 1, followed by Phase 2 on May 29.

On July 27, Governor Steve Sisolak announced a new "flexible and responsive" long-term mitigation strategy for Nevada. On August 3, Governor Sisolak released the *Road to Recovery: Moving to a New Normal* ("New Normal Plan") as a supplement to the earlier phased approach.

On August 14, Governor Sisolak created the Nevada COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force ("Task Force") pursuant to Directive 030 to enforce the New Normal Plan. The Task Force was given power to adopt, modify, or reject county action plans under NRS 414.060(3)(f).

On August 20, Nevada resident, Janie Sandberg started a petition to reopen playgrounds.

On September 2, Nevada resident, Karlee Phelps petitioned the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to reopen playgrounds.

On September 3, County Commission Chairwoman Marilyn Kirkpatrick petitioned the Task Force to reopen playgrounds, "We also believe that we can open up parks and playground equipment. So if it's not this committee, which is what I heard today, that that's not within your authority, I'd like to know how it gets moved up to the chain so we can open some of those things up... I'd like to be 100% compared to other states when it comes to sports, comes to playgrounds, comes to countertops."

Nevada COVID-19 Response Director Caleb Cage responded, “We do not have the enforcement authority or the authority in our directives 030 to address parks, playgrounds, sports youth, and self-service.”

Director of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Richard Whitley commented, “I do like the focus also on opening up recreational areas and parks. I think that Commissioner Kirkpatrick has been leading efforts to address perhaps a second epidemic, which will be a mental health crisis related to isolation, particularly with children, high-risk children, those in foster care, those whose parents are working. And I think there’s a concept here of opening something can be also be a mitigation for spread of disease.”

Executive Director of Community Resilience at the Nevada Hospital Association Christopher Lake added, “Would it be appropriate, even knowing that it’s outside the scope for us to change the parks and recreation and sports... to either take a vote of support or not so that the Governor would know how this committee feels about that... Personally I think it’s a great idea.”

Director Cage explained, “It absolutely could if there was a vote that reached majority here for us to do a vote of support. It cannot happen today because it’s not on the agenda... And if we were to develop some sort of report or presentation or otherwise, that’s something we could consider and have a vote, or have a discussion, and make some recommendations on.”

After the Task Force meeting, Mary Hynes, health reporter from the Las Vegas Review Journal asked Governor Sisolak at a press conference, “The county was pressing today to open the playgrounds, youth sports, churches. I know you want those things too. Could we be seeing that in a matter of weeks, months, and what will our numbers need to look like?”

Governor Sisolak responded, “I don’t have an exact number that we need to get to. I don’t have a metric that I could say that if we reach this, you’re going to get there, and I don’t have an exact date. I can tell you that the items you mentioned are our priorities, you know the youth sports, the churches, those sorts of things, the meetings. We going to get there as quickly but as responsibility as we possibly can. So, we’re going to continue to monitor best practices across the country. And hopefully our numbers keep going in that direction.”

As of September 10, 2020, over 1800 residents have signed the petition to reopen playgrounds at <https://www.change.org/p/steve-sisolak-re-open-playgrounds?redirect=false>.

## SUMMARY

The benefits of reopening playgrounds outweigh the risks for the following six reasons: 1) reopening playgrounds is a mitigation strategy for Nevada’s mental health crisis, 2) alternative activities are expensive and pose a higher risk of infection than playgrounds, 3) closed playgrounds disproportionately affect low-income families, 4) playgrounds should reopen before demand increases, 5) students participating in distance learning need playgrounds for recess, and 6) other western states have given local governments authority to reopen playgrounds.

## ARGUMENT

Thank you for your willingness to close playgrounds to protect the community for nearly six months. Because circumstances have changed, now is the time to re-evaluate this restriction.

Although COVID-19 research is under-developed, let us assume the following: A) children *can* transmit the COVID-19 virus to each other, B) children are *less* capable than adults at social distancing, C) the COVID-19 virus *can* survive on playground equipment, and D) children do *not* need to be exposed to viruses in order to build up their immune systems. Assuming each of these statements are true, the remaining question is... *Do the benefits of reopening the playgrounds outweigh the risks?* Please consider these changed circumstances.

### 1. Reopening playgrounds is a mitigation strategy for Nevada's mental health crisis.

Parents have spent six months trying to find ways to keep their children busy at home during this pandemic. Caregivers' creativity, patience, and enthusiasm are waning. Many have been pushed to their limit. Existing mental health conditions have worsened, and new mental health conditions have developed and been left undiagnosed and untreated. Governor Sisolak recently issued two proclamations to address this mental health crisis.

Children are suffering too. Fear and anxiety in children have skyrocketed. Child abuse reporting has plummeted because children are isolated from mandated reports (i.e., teachers, religious leaders, health care providers).

Children and parents need time away from home. Away from screens. Away from news reports. Away from the stress of the current situation. Playgrounds could be this safe haven.

### 2. Alternatives to playgrounds are expensive and pose a higher risk of infection.

Many amenities and businesses have reopened, providing parents with alternatives to playgrounds. However, many Nevada residents do not have access to these alternatives because of proximity or cost. Furthermore, many of these alternatives have more touchable surfaces and less room to socially distance.

	FEE-based alternatives to playgrounds	FREE alternatives to playgrounds
Indoor	Indoor Playgrounds	Libraries (Las Vegas and Clark County open, Henderson closed)
	Hands-on Museums	
	Classes/Clubs	
	Clubs	
	Aquariums	
	Trampoline Parks	
	Art Studios	
	Family Entertainment Centers	
	Arcades	
	Bowling Alleys	
	Movie Theaters	

Outdoor	Pools	Splash Pads (closing after September 30)
	Youth Sports (practice only)	Multi-Use Paths
	Waterparks	Hiking Trails
	Wildlife Habitats	Sports Fields
	State/National Parks	Skate Parks

### **3. Closed playgrounds disproportionately affect low-income families.**

Some residents are lucky enough to have backyards with private playsets, trampolines, grass, pools, playhouses, sports courts, etc. These same residents can afford to take their children to museums and enroll their children in after-school activities.

But what about low-income families living in small apartments, without transportation and disposable income? These families rely on public playgrounds within walking distance of their homes for entertainment, education, and exercise. Closed playgrounds disproportionately affect low-income families that have no other reasonable alternatives for outdoor play.

### **4. Playgrounds should reopen before demand increases.**

During the summer, splash pads have been a free alternative to playgrounds. But not all residents have a splash pad near their home. Also, where will the children play after the splash pads close at the end of September? Cooler weather will increase demand for playgrounds. It would be better to reopen, install signage, and begin sanitizing playgrounds before demand increases.

Director of the Las Vegas Department of Parks and Recreation Greg Weitzel has confirmed that the City of Las Vegas is working on a plan to restore playgrounds and other amenities that have been closed during the pandemic. They are also exploring various ways to clean the playgrounds more efficiently and provide sanitation stations.

### **5. Students participating in distance learning need playgrounds for recess.**

The transition to distance learning has eliminated recess for most Nevada children. No one questions the cognitive, emotional, and behavioral benefits of outdoor play during the school day. Now many children are spending up to 6 hours a day, 5 days a week, in front of a screen. These children need outdoor play to balance out the negative effects of increased screen time. For many Nevada residents, playgrounds are their only reasonable option until school resumes.

### **6. Other western states have allowed local governments to reopened playgrounds.**

Below is a summary of the status of playgrounds in the western states. Generally, states have given local governments authority to decide this issue. In Nevada, Governor Sisolak could reopen playgrounds statewide, or alternatively, he could delegate authority to local governments under NRS 414.060(3)(f).

Cities and states that have reopened playgrounds are encouraging residents to observe CDC guidelines, including social distancing, masks, hygiene, and capacity limits.

**Utah** playgrounds are open statewide. Under, Utah's color-coded Health Guidance System, playgrounds can reopen under yellow (low risk) and green (minimal risk). All counties are currently yellow or green.

**Idaho** playgrounds are open statewide. All counties are in stage 4 of the Governor's 4-stage reopening plan.

**Arizona** has allowed local governments to decide whether to reopen playgrounds. Although Phoenix playgrounds remain closed, many nearby cities have reopened playgrounds (i.e., Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Mesa, Peoria, Scottsdale), as well as Tucson and Mesa.

**California** has provided little guidance to local governments on reopening outdoor playgrounds. In August, Governor Newsom announced a new color-coded Blueprint for a Safer Economy and released industry guidelines that allow for reopening of outdoor family entertainment, museums, zoos, and aquariums for all 4 risk levels (widespread, substantial, moderate, and minimal), but the state's website does not specifically mention parks or playgrounds. Generally, playgrounds remain closed statewide (i.e., San Diego County, Los Angeles County, Sacramento County).

**Oregon** has allowed local government to decide whether to reopen playgrounds. In June, Governor Brown announced that playgrounds could reopen in Phase 2 counties. Although Multnomah County (which includes Portland) is still in Phase 1, many counties have progressed to Phase 2 and reopened playgrounds over the summer (i.e., Eugene, Salem, Bend, Medford).

**Washington** has allowed local governments to decide whether to reopen playgrounds. Although Seattle playgrounds remain closed, King County (which includes Seattle) has announced playgrounds can reopen. So many nearby cities have reopened playgrounds (i.e., Issaquah, Bothell, Federal Way, Kent, Redmond, Snohomish, Lakewood, Mill Creek). Further south Pierce County (which includes Tacoma) has reopened playgrounds, as well as Vancouver.

## CONCLUSION

The benefits of reopening playgrounds outweigh the risks for the following six reasons: 1) reopening playgrounds will help mitigate our state's mental health crisis, 2) alternatives to playgrounds are costly and more risky than playgrounds, 3) low-income families are disproportionately affected by closed playgrounds, 4) cooler temperatures will increase demand for playgrounds, 5) playgrounds could be used for distance learning recess, and 6) most western states have allowed local governments to decide whether to reopen playgrounds.

Petitioners respectfully request that Governor Sisolak reopen playgrounds statewide, or alternatively, delegate authority to local governments to reopen playgrounds.

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Tami Illingworth <tami@lasvegassuites.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 1:05 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Sisolak and Sports

To Mr. Sisolak –

My kids are involved in a couple different sports in Clark County. We do BMX, Mountain Biking, and soccer. Last year, when you announced the school closures, my son lost access to his two favorite sports ever. BMX and Mountain Biking racing. Last year, was the second year for the new mountain biking league in Southern Nevada. We had twice the amount of kids sign up for the second year as did the first. That was due to a lot of hard work on all the coaches and directors of the State. Now mountain biking is a socially distanced sport. They wear their own helmets, ride their own bikes and get to experience the freedom of our awesome trails throughout Southern Nevada. You have no idea the looks on the the kids' faces when they learn how to ride over new obstacles, learn to shift their bikes and make it up hills that they have never even made it up. I had one child on my team last year that almost gave up the year before because he was getting discouraged. He told me he was going to quit. His parents told him that he could, but he would have to finish out the first race. Well, my kid worked hard on my team and practiced. And you know what happened? He won his first race ever!!! His smile was so big when he crossed that finish line. His parents told me he didn't take off the "Leader Jersey" for a week. He wore it to school, church, and even to bed. The "Leader Jersey" is given to the winners of each race by age group. They get to wear it at the next race and it becomes a competition to see if another kid will get it or if he works hard to keep it himself. My point is, Mr. Sisolak, that you have no comprehension of the damage that you have done by taking our kids away from their sports. My son fell into a deep depression. His whole life stopped. He not only missed the tracks, but he missed his friends. All kids need to be with their friends. All kids need to have an outlet to have fun, to have some competition, to push themselves to be better. The damage done to these kids is not fully known yet, but I know how much it hurts them to not be able to go to the park and play basketball. To see caution tape around all the swings and slides. You have taken away their fun. I also fear that you have made the kids fearful of life and taught them to be scared. What is the economic cost of teaching kids to never take any risks?

Well, I hope you read these letters. So far, you have only looked down at us as wayward children. But we are successful business owners and we didn't get here by being afraid. We learned how to be successful by playing sports and taking risks. Open the State. Open the Schools. Our kids are suffering.

Kind Regards,



**Tami Illingworth**  
**Financial Director**  
7 Hills Hand Car Wash  
2630 Sunridge Heights Parkway  
Henderson, Nevada 89052  
<http://www.7hillshandcarwash.com/>  
702.737.0339 o

**Jim Gibson**

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**From:** Natalie Williams <njwill1999@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 4:38 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Please re-open youth sports in NV

This message originated outside Clark County. Please validate sender before taking action on this message.

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Good Afternoon Governor,

I am writing on behalf of my 9yo daughter who is an avid athlete and volleyball player. She plays volleyball, softball, dances, and tumbles. I am writing this letter to advocate for re-opening youth sports in Nevada. As a parent and a licensed mental health professional, I can attest to the positive psychological impact of allowing our kids to remain active participants in youth sports. It boosts self-confidence, aids in their physical health, and increases dopamine and serotonin levels in their brains. Enjoyable activities like exercise through sports is not only an essential part of their personal life, family life, and upbringing, it is a contributing factor to their overall health and well-being. I am specifically advocating for the allowance of school volleyball and club volleyball to proceed as the upcoming club season approaches over the next 2 months.

Sincerely,

Natalie Williams

**Jim Gibson**

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**From:** Lance Craig <lancecraig1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 2:18 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Re-Open Youth Sports in Nevada! Governor Sisolak

Governor please reopening youth sports, the lock down has been horrible for many teens including my own teen daughter! Looking forward to starting her freshman year in high school has not been as planned. Since kids are having no interaction with their friends sports would be amazing to have something for them to look forward to! All sports can be done safely just as many of the professional sports have done over the last few months. My daughter's Volleyball is a big part of her life, the teams are always small and spread out more then many of the professional sports teams. Volleyball is a very safe and distanced sport while still being able to enjoy friends! Having some normalcy at least with teammates would definitely take away all the doom and gloom that is happening for many of our youth in Clark County! Please re-open youth sports for our kids mental and physical health! Lance Craig



**Jim Gibson**

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**From:** Natalie Gostanian <nataliegostanian@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 2:18 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Youth Sports

Dear Governor Sisolak,

I am writing to inform you that youth sports in Las Vegas, Nevada, are not only important but are necessary. Children need a way to release energy, stress, and maintain physical and mental health. Although these are trying times, it is important not to ignore the essential needs of our youth. Please take the children's interest into account when deciding whether or not to open youth sports. These children are suffering and need an outlet which sports can provide. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Natalie Gostanian, a mother of three children

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Briana Estrella <onthego702@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 12:33 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** To Governor Sisolak

Dear Governor Sisolak,

I am sending this email to you personally in regards to my child's welfare. I am asking you to consider to NOT eliminate volleyball. As a parent who has a child that participates in this activity, I am stressing to you the overall well balance this provides to my daughter.

Volleyball is essential to my child well-being, it is all she has left in this new world we're stuck in. To keep her safe, we keep her at home secluded from the outside world. In this new world of changes she is forced to do online schooling, which has been extremely overwhelming, lonely and a huge adjustment. Volleyball is mentally healthy and vital to her over all well being, it is the only thing that is keeping her going! Volleyball builds character, teaches her team work and the physical aspect is so important to her mental state of mind. Sports are crucial in her childhood development for a number a of reasons. Loosing volleyball would be devastating and traumatic to my child's life.

It builds confidence, motivation, social skills as well as healthy growth of her bones, muscles, ligaments and tendons.

The gym as well as us, her parents are following all guidelines to ensure safety for the everyone involved. Please do not take this from our children it will have a detrimental lasting effect.

Thanks Briana Estrella

09/10/2020

Dear Governor Sisolak,

I am writing you today as a mother of 3 children in the State of Nevada. We all agreed and did what was asked of us to help the spread of Covid-19. We shut down our children's lives, we have them wearing masks, and we have the socially distancing. The damage going forth with the current restrictions needs to be reversed. The aftermath of the shutdowns is worse than the original reason we all agreed to participate. The original shutdowns were based on science and the numbers being reported. The numbers have been updated as we have more information from the science about the disease. It is now time to open, remove our masks, and allow us to live our lives and our children's! We know the risks, it's time to allow us the freedom to make our own choices. It is important for our kids to be active. It is important for our kids to be social. It is important for our kids to be challenged. It is important for our kids to learn new skills. It is important for our kids to be coached. YOUTH SPORTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR KIDS LIVES!!!! WE NEED YOUTH SPORTS. WE ARE ASKING YOU TO OPEN YOUTH SPORTS.

Sincerely,  
Julie Hunt

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## **EMILY FARNSWORTH**

6636 Universal Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89142 | (702) 756-3146 | emilyfoofoo@icloud.com

**September 10, 2020**

**Dear Governor Sisolak,**

My name is Emily Farnsworth and I am 11 years old and just started 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Harney Middle School in Las Vegas, Nevada. I am a good student, but what I really enjoy doing is playing sports. I love basketball and soccer. Since COVID started back in March, I have missed playing so much. My soccer and basketball leagues can't play games because of the COVID restrictions. I have been trying to practice on my own, but really want to get back to playing games with my teams – this is important for my social health.

I hope you will consider my thoughts.

Thank you,

**Emily Farnsworth**

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Crystal Paialii <kaliko1012@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 11, 2020 10:32 AM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** For the love of volleyball!!

Hello. I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to share a little insight of my life as an athlete mom. I have 2 daughters who play club volleyball. My eldest playing her 5th year and my youngest playing her 2nd year. If anyone would ask my daughters why is volleyball so important to them? My oldest would say "volleyball is life" because it's my second family. The bond, the energy, the sportsmanship and togetherness we share as a team is what I love most. The way we support each other to get better individually as a player and as a team player. Volleyball is what makes me happy.

My youngest would say, because it's where I learned to not be afraid and ashamed of my epilepsy. My coach has epilepsy and it made me feel like I'm not alone. Volleyball has made me feel that even though I have a disability I can still be part of the team. A team player. I love volleyball. It's fun, it's hard and I can do hard things.

I as a mother know the love of sports my girls have. I as a mother also know the importance to protect our families during this unprecedented period in our lives. I also know how impossible your job must feel like from time to time. Governor, please consider letting sports reactivate in our city. It's a sense of normalcy and hope. Not just for our family but for thousands of families who devote their lives to their children. The coaches who spend endless hours helping teach and direct these young lives. Lastly the athletes who's love and passion begins with what they retain from playing sports. I have kept my children busy during quarantine with bike rides, hikes and doing things that have helped us have a more stronger bond but I think about those kids that don't have the same support. The ones who use sports as an outlet. Please Governor allow sports to be open. Restrictions & safety measures are absolutely understandable but allow our kids to play!

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Jeannie Galvin <jeanniegalvin73@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 11:02 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Bring back youth sports!

Hello,

I am writing to you to voice my support for allowing youth sports to be allowed to operate again in Clark County. Outdoor sports especially should be allowed to come back and spectators should be allowed! These kids need an outlet for their energy. Many kids will lose opportunities for college scholarships as many colleges recruit from club sport organizations. I have seen my son's mental health decline as he has not been able to participate in soccer games. If kids can be packed into the wave pools at Wet and Wild and Cowabunga Bay, then they can play outdoor sports! Even indoor sports should be allowed with masked and socially distant spectators! When you look at all the things that are open, it makes no sense that outdoor sports are not. Indoor dining, movie theaters, casinos, gyms, and salons all seem to have greater risk than indoor and outdoor youth sports. These athletes deserve the chance to play! Their immune systems will be stronger if they can get more exercise and have some hope! Please, please, please do what you can to let who ever needs to know that parents and athletes want youth sports to be allowed! The probability of a youth sport participant having severe illness or death is so miniscule that it does not make sense to keep it shut down this long! The adults can wear masks and space out. If someone has an at risk family member at home they can make the decision if they want to play or not. It makes no sense to shut the entire system down. Let them play!!!!

Jeannie Galvin  
Soccer Mom  
Volleyball Mom

Brian and Megan Farnsworth  
6636 Universal Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89142  
Home: (702) 437-7108  
Email: [brianfarns@cox.net](mailto:brianfarns@cox.net)

September 10, 2020

Dear Governor Sisolak,

We are native Las Vegans who "get it" when it comes to certain COVID restrictions. While Brian is in great health, he is a type-1 diabetic, marking him as high risk according to the CDC. Both of our sets of parents live near us and are considered high risk, as they are all over 65. Brian's grandma lives with his parents and is currently undergoing cancer treatments for a rare cancer of the blood. When we say we get it, we really do; however, we have concerns that tight restrictions are causing long-term negative impacts with Nevada's youth.

In addition to being forty-somethings with living parents nearby, we are also the parents of four daughters ages 17, 15, 11, and 7. Each of our daughters pursue different activities, all of which have been impacted in one way or another by the pandemic.

Jessica is 17 and a senior at Las Vegas High School. While her senior year looks unique, the biggest impact she is having is planning for college. For the past six years, Jessica has committed her life to a club swim team. She swims seven days a week for 2-3 hours a day. During spring break and summer, Jessica does "2-a-days" where she is swimming 5-6 hours/day, only taking Christmas off. She has done all of that while also maintaining a 4.0 in high school. Jessica's dream has always been to swim at a D1 college and slowly but surely, she is watching any chance of that dream becoming a reality fade away. When her peers were hanging out on the weekends, Jessica gave up those social interactions to swim in hopes of earning a scholarship. Because no swim meets can happen and access to swimming pools is extremely limited, she can't get new official times to send to schools that had been recruiting her. Add to that the fact that many universities are now permanently dismantling their swim programs due to budget concerns and that swimmers from the class of 2020 who had already been promised scholarships will "Red shirt" and likely start their first year of swimming the first year Jessica would be starting in college, her competition has doubled and her chance of earning a scholarship to swim has significantly diminished. This is taking a serious toll on her emotions and spirit.

Abigail is 15 and is a sophomore at Las Vegas High School. Abi loves socializing with other kids and is a varsity cheerleader. She is also vice-president of the sophomore student class. Abi is a super smart girl, but doesn't love school. The opportunity to interact with others is what keeps

her motivated. While she has found creative ways to engage with others while social distancing, she is experiencing increased anxiety and often feels like she is on an emotional roller coaster as she tries to adapt to this new normal.

Emily is 11 and just started sixth grade at Harney Middle School. She is our family jokester who loves to make other people smile and laugh. Emily enjoys playing soccer and basketball, but especially enjoys competing in games where her adrenaline kicks in. Since restrictions have been imposed on youth sports, we have found it more and more challenging to keep her physically active and we worry that not having sports as a way to stay physically fit will have lifelong impacts on her health.

Mikayla is 7, a second grader at Iverson Elementary School and loves to sing, dance and perform. She sits in her online classes (on mute) and belts out song after song to the rest of us. She is extremely bright for her age and is very independent, but we are seeing signs that her ability to stay focused by staring at a computer all day is waning. She misses her outlet for her excess energy...dance classes!

Each of these girls is unique in her own way and yet each are emotionally, spiritually and physically impacted by this pandemic.

Because of the high-risk nature of our extended family, we are mindful of social distancing restrictions and try to limit our interactions with others, but more and more we're pausing to determine if these strict guidelines outweigh the long-term impacts we're seeing in our children – the future of our family, our city and our state!

Our children, like so many others in the valley, need to have the opportunity to socialize again. They need to have the opportunity to compete again. If our leaders, like you, would allow this by incorporating clear guidance and accountability along the way, we will work with the sports leagues, schools, clubs, and groups to abide by guidance to help keep each other safe. We need the opportunity to keep our kids safe and we also need the ability to determine what is best for our children.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Farnsworth      Megan Farnsworth

Brian and Megan Farnsworth



## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Jeff Stone <jeffs@westernelite.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 12, 2020 5:09 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Letter to Governor Sisolak

Dear Mr Governor,

Going to church and playing sports is essential to my health. This year has been interesting and difficult for me. I have learned how powerful the government is and how quickly our freedoms that my fathers died for can be taken away. This year I was, like many other high school seniors, looking forward to competing in my final season in volleyball. I have been playing this sport for 10 years and I have sacrificed thousands of hours to improve my skills.

This year, I have felt that all my efforts to become a better volleyball player were for nothing.

After all my work, I can not play and enjoy it in this final season.

I am struggling mentally due to lack of exercise, socializing, routine, and many other things that sports teach. In addition to sports, I rely on church to keep me mentally healthy. Church and religion is my way to find peace and joy in life. Without it I can not fulfill my potential to become a hard working citizen that will make a difference in this country.

While you say we need separation to stay healthy, the youth of this city and state need interaction and unity to stay healthy. We need sports and church, along with many other things, to open up so we can learn and experience the unity and leadership skills that come from being a part of a team and church family. We need sports and church to give us the experience we need in order to become the future leaders of families, businesses, and this country.

Thank you,

Brooklyn Stone

## **Jim Gibson**

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**From:** Jeff Stone <jeffs@westernelite.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 12, 2020 5:05 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Letter of Governor Sisolak

Dear Governor Sisolak,

As a youth living in Las Vegas, Nevada, I wanted to tell you how shutting down schools, sports, and churches have affected us. As you probably already know some people in Vegas rely on sports for their futures. Not having these activities seriously impacts the future of these athletes. Kids in Las Vegas rely on school to socialize and maybe even get away from bad home environments. Online school poses challenges to kids with not very good internet connections and may even kill the motivation to learn. I am also a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Having church really helps everyone with their mental and emotional health. These closures have had major impacts on the children that live in Las Vegas. I am asking you sincerely to reopen these things for the futures and the health of our students.

Thank you,  
Alec Benavidez

Dear Governor Sisolak,

September 12, 2020

I want to express my appreciation for the action taken to protect the health of the residents of Nevada in March of 2020. Coronavirus was an unfamiliar virus and very little was known about how it was spread, how people would be affected when exposed, and how to treat it, so I can understand the caution that was taken for the first few months. Now over six months later, we know a little more about the virus. Health professionals know better how to treat it, people are more aware of how to slow down the spread and most are taking precautions such as washing hands more frequently, social distancing and wearing masks, so I think it is time to reopen up more places, especially our youth sports and our churches.

My family and I have been very supportive of the restrictions placed on us with Covid-19. We were strict with quarantining and social distancing and still continue to follow the guidelines. It has been a sacrifice for my six teenage and young adult children. They have given up sports, social gatherings, church services, and family to be obedient to the restrictions. Last month my husband tested positive for Covid-19. We think it was probably passed on at his place of employment. They are required to wear masks and social distance but we know that doesn't always stop it. When he became sick we all diligently quarantined for two weeks to make sure we didn't have any symptoms and weren't contagious. During that time the rest of us did not get ill and my husband made a full recovery.

It appears to have passed the sincere well-being of the people and turned toward the financial benefit from a Covid death and a positive Covid result. I've heard that the CDC has adjusted their numbers to reflect actual Covid deaths that did not have other underlying health issues which reduced the Covid death number astronomically.

I realize this could be a serious virus for some to contract and I think all those who high risk could avoid places and people where they might get it. However, I do think people should be given a choice. That is what makes our country unique and sought after because it not based on force. In short people should use wisdom in their activities. Our country has been founded and has continually been built on people who have given their all, many millions their very lives, so that we can have our freedoms. We need to have more faith that people will use wisdom and continue to use good health practices. This doesn't guarantee that all will make good choices, but I believe that the majority of people will make responsible choices. Just because they're deaths on the roads, we don't take away everyone's driving privileges. We still have the choice to continue drive even though we aware of risks.

I would ask that you reopen our churches, our sports and other activities and have faith that people will make positive choices. The community needs God and we need each other!

Thank you,  
Michelle Berkabile

Dear Governor Sisolak,

As I sit here in my home off trying to figure out how to impress you with how important youth sports are, I find myself looking a signed Proclamation by yourself. In 2013 the Coronado Cougars baseball team won their first state championship. In the Proclamation it states their records, some person achievement and the coaches achievements. As the coaches wife, I saw how many hours of time he put in with practice, field prep and teaching and constant support and the hours of phone calls to encourage parents and players in all area of their lives. He is now retired from coaching the baseball, but those connects, and the hours spent with those boys instilled so many life lessons. Yes, they played baseball, but they gained so life skills to be productive members of society. I remember seeing team after team start as little boys and graduate as fine young men. Those boys on that state team, 17 of those seniors went on to play baseball at colleges and to gain college educations. Two of them went on win the Junior college world series at Mesa Arizona, then a handful of them played in many different levels of the college world series, three went on passed the college level to play in the minor leagues and to this day one of the young men is still playing in the minor leagues. We are now watching them graduate on to life. Many have gotten married and are starting their lives, some of those young men are now in the medical field, teachers, coaches, small business owners and are many are fathers now themselves.

I remember the years that we first met those boys in was in the summer leagues with they were starting their 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Those boys had all the typically issues that come with being teenagers along with all the societal issues. Boy did they need the outlet of sports and team and a coach to help them grow up. During those years between the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year and now. There has been counts divicovers, battles with drug and girlfriend issues, a suicide, and deaths of fathers and the countless happy times too, dances, little siblings being born, cheering each other on in life after that team. Many have jobs here in Vegas.

As I have watched our girls not be able to play sports since this last march, I wonder what the long term effects on them is going to be. Will they understand the valve of hard work? With they know what it is like to put the work in and see the reward. Will they know how to work with others? Will they know how to push through hard times. With they learn to trust others. I know that you also feel you are doing the right thing, but at what expense for lives that will go on. Will we able have a group of kids that don't know how to keep their bodies healthy. Ironical that the issues that are closest to my heart about the sports isn't even the sports themselves, but all the good side effects.

As a mother I have seen my 2 teenagers be closed in the house, having no outlet. School is at home; church is at home. The only time they get out of the house is go to the gym. Yes, we ware our mask, work out and then put our mask back on and head home. It is just not healthy to be in the homes this long. Growing up in such a free world, it is sure weird to be writing a letter to you to request to give us back youth sports to give our children so hope back. I think the benefits of giving hope to them through sports is so important to prevent, long term effect of social issues, suicide, and obesity.

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Christa Winans <BELLWINANS@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 11, 2020 6:42 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Re-open Youth Sports- Volleyball

Governor Sisolak,

My name is Christa Winans. I am 38 years old, I was born and raised in Las Vegas. I have two daughters- ages 12 and 8.

I am writing in support of reopening youth sports in Nevada.

We all know sports are an amazing outlet for children. Both my daughters have played volleyball for the past several years and there are many positive things that have come from their time playing.

First off, the physical benefits are unmatched. My older daughter has gotten in shape, she is healthy and she loves everything about leading a healthy lifestyle. Volleyball has provided her with a confidence she did not have in herself before.

Second is her work ethic. She gives 100% at practice, during games and even crossing over into her school and studies. She knows the rules in our house are keeping up grades first and volleyball second. She never slacks in either area. She sets goals and works at them until she reaches them, then sets new ones. She has maintained straight A's since she started school- and kept them that way after starting volleyball.

Third, being part of a team- esp this year, (being a competitive travel volleyball team) It has given her life long friendships. It has provided many new and unique opportunities for our family. We have been able to travel and make many memories that will last us forever.

It has brought our family closer sharing a common goal to cheer her team on to victory.

My younger daughter counted down the days til she turned of age to be able to play volleyball like her big sister. It is something they now get to practice together. It inspires them to work hard and help each other.

Please reopen sports for our kids- especially volleyball. Our kids have been punished by being stuck at home away from friends and teammates for long enough. It is unfair to continue this lockdown on sports. We need to learn to live with this virus- it will never be gone completely. Please open sports and give kids their happiness back.

Christa Winans  
702.510.8065

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Brooke Edlund <edlund.brooke@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 1:37 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Youth Sports in our community

Dear Governor Sisolak,

First of all, I would like to tell you that I think you have done a wonderful job managing this pandemic for our state and I appreciate all that you are doing for us. You are in a tough spot and there is no way to please everyone and I truly believe you have the welfare of the people at heart and I'm grateful for that. These times are truly like no other and with the shutdown of our communities, schools and sports - life as we knew it changed in an instant. While the current circumstances are not ideal, I do support your efforts and I do my part as a citizen to keep my family and fellow neighbors safe.

As a parent of two daughters in Henderson, ages 9 and 11 years old, it is my responsibility to keep their lives intact despite this new world and the threat of Covid-19. I believe there is a way to safely lead a "normal" life that involves education, physical activity and family time - which is a routine that every child needs and craves. The routine of school and sports (at least in our house) is the heartbeat of our family.

My kids have both been very active in many sports over the years, but especially volleyball. When youth sports was eliminated in the spring, and while it was understood as to the reasons why...my kids dearly missed not only the physicality of playing, but also their friendships and the connection they feel when they are at the gym. Volleyball was able to restart over the summer and I have noticed such a positive change in my girls by adding this back into their lives.

The world is still not normal, schools are not in-person, many things are still just not the same and no one knows when things will truly be back to normal...but opening youth sports (with additional rules, if needed, to make it as safe as possible for all) is giving our children a way to socialize safely, be active physically and have that routine that is so important. I believe that youth sports can be conducted in a safe manner and I appreciate you giving the kids of our community this opportunity.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,  
Brooke Edlund  
206.579.9277

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Jeff Stone <jeffs@westernelite.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 12, 2020 5:04 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Fwd: Letter to Sisolak

Jeff Stone | Western Elite  
T: 702-440-4242 | M: 702-672-3147  
E: [JeffS@westernelite.com](mailto:JeffS@westernelite.com) | W: [westernelite.com](http://westernelite.com)  
2745 North Nellis Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89115

sent from my Samsung Galaxy Note 10

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**From:** Benavidez <benavidez@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 12, 2020 4:37:13 PM  
**To:** Jeff Stone <jeffs@westernelite.com>  
**Subject:** Letter to Sisolak

Governor Sisolak,

As a parent, educator, and concerned citizen of Nevada, I implore you to open this state.

I am the parent of a sophomore at Las Vegas High School. Like most students his age, he dealt with the closure last year with a good attitude. We expected fully to be able to return to the classroom and to school sports in the fall. I have seen this outgoing child go from having a positive attitude, to being sullen, moody, and slightly depressed. He needs an outlet. He deserves an outlet. He is a great student who has an outstanding future. He needs to be in school getting the education he deserves. He has also looked forward to sports this year. Nevada students are at a huge disadvantage to their peers in neighboring states. How is this fair?

I have been watching the pandemic numbers since the very first case. I believe that people who are more at-risk should be taking precautions. The rest of us need to live our lives. Nevada is in a position to open. Our family has been fortunate to work in fields where we have both remained employed. Not all families have been this fortunate. Nevadans need to get back to work. It is your responsibility to save this economy.

Americans have the right to protect themselves. We do not need government dictating our decisions. The fact that we are unable to attend church in person has affected my family and myself in many ways. We need to assemble. We have a constitutional right to assemble.

I respectfully ask that you take the 320,000 CCSD students, their families, and all churchgoers into consideration. Do what is right. Open Nevada.

Sincerely,

Michael and Amanda Benavidez

## Jim Gibson

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**From:** Jeff Stone <jeffs@westernelite.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 12, 2020 5:11 PM  
**To:** Jim Gibson  
**Subject:** Letter to Governor Sisolak

Dear Mr. Governor,

I have spent the last ten years of my life training for and competing in volleyball. Ever since I was young, I looked forward to playing High School volleyball with my two sisters. This year would be the first time that the three of us could be on the same team. Due to the government restrictions, that chance has been withdrawn from us. My oldest sister is a senior in High School this year, so the opportunity to play together will be gone if our High School season remains restricted. Like I said before, we have been looking forward to this very season for a long time.

But this activity is more than just a sport, it is important to my mental health, and the mental health of our community. Athletics bring students together, getting them out and uniting them as one team. As we develop our strength and exercise our bodies, we are exercising our minds and becoming mentally strong as well. We are learning discipline and self control. Learning to push ourselves and work hard towards a goal. These mental skills will extend past our High School years and effect our adult lives. For my whole life I have attended weekly church sessions on Sunday. Again, due to the government restrictions, I haven't been able to attend church in six months. This is obviously a drastic change from what I have been used to for the previous 15 years of my life. Church is a place of peace, where we come together to develop our love for God. Our minds are filled with good, we become better people, and citizens of our country. Without it, I find that it's harder to see the good in so many situations. I know that I am not alone. The youth of the United States are the future of our country. We need strong minds, we need people who work hard towards goals, and people who lift others up. Without so many of the things that push us to work hard, we are unable to exercise our minds and help them become strong. I know that I am not alone when I say that the youth of our country need sports, we need school, we need church. They are essential to our mental strength.

Thank you,  
Alivia Stone



## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Ennis Wesley <ennis@jamonit.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 9, 2020 12:03 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Cc:** Larry Camacho; Eric Bauman  
**Subject:** Sporting Events in Las Vegas

Commissioner Kirkpatrick Office:

As a sports facility owner & sports event operator, I would love to know how is it that Tarkanian Basketball Academy (2730 South Rancho Drive) are being allowed to host & rent facility for live basketball events when other sports facility owners can't or have been shut down by authorities. I have copied two other facility owner on this email, we would love to discuss sports in Nevada with the Committee that is in charged. I have text Commissioner Weekly, and speaking to several other representatives from Business & Industries (Chris Williams). Also have provided a promotion flyer from last weekend Labor Day weekend. It's seems that Tarkanian can operator at full capacity & rent out facility however they see fit, while minority businesses are going bankrupt. It was a pleasure to see you Commission Kirkpatrick present to the LV City Counsel about allowing churches to operate & sports to resume play without spectators, we would love to be able to discuss those steps with you or the board. This email is simply a informational email of questions & concerns. We as sports facilities owners just want a even playing field as we navigate through this COVID 19 process. We thank you for your time & consideration.

Ennis Wesley - Jam On It Sportsplex  
Larry Camacho - Hoop City  
Eric Bauman - LV Basketball Center

Ennis Wesley  
Sent from my iPhone

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Angie Wagner <mattnangie07@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 3:10 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** youth sports

Hello,

I am just reaching out as a parent of a youth soccer player to commend you for fighting for youth sports to open. Is there anything parents can do to help?

I am unclear who exactly makes the decision to open up youth soccer. Initially I was told it was the state soccer association, NYSA, but they deferred to the LEAP board and the governor. But then I heard the governor deferred to NYSA. Very confusing.

My 14-year-old daughter is a competitive soccer player. Our players have followed all the rules. We socially distance and have done so since we could practice on June 15. Initially we were told we would be in each "phase" for 2 weeks so by Phase 3 in four weeks we would be scrimmaging. But that didn't happen.

We now we are on September 10. Our girls follow all the rules. But yet casinos are open and the videos from Fremont Street this past weekend make it hard to understand why our children can't play games outside? There is no evidence Covid-19 is spreading through youth sports. Yet our children are paying the price. They sit all day online listening to virtual classes. They NEED sports. They NEED to play games. We have lower income children on our team who have already stopped coming to practice. It is hard to keep kids engaged when they don't know what they are working toward.

Our girls are part of an elite soccer league that is a national league. Most of the other parts of the country have already started games in our league. It's hard to explain to my daughter why she can't play. These girls are also at a high recruiting age. If they don't play games, colleges can't recruit them.

Please continue to help push for youth sports to open.

Thank you for your support,

Angie Wagner

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Michelle Peraza <lvegasfun@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2020 3:28 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youth Soccer

I realize this may not be at the top of your list of priorities, but I feel it's an important issue. Covid has turned our world upside down. I teach kindergarten and it has been quite an adjustment this school year. My husband is a bartender at a local casino and has been unemployed for 6 months. With all this going on I am writing to you about my 15 year old daughter who is not allowed to play soccer. She and I do not understand how thousands of people can visit our city in one weekend and 22 girls cannot play soccer? I won't even compare us to other states. Our state just decides it's not safe to play. No statistics showing it's not safe. When asked nobody has any answers. With all our youth has to deal with sports is an outlet to help them relieve stress. I am being selfish too because watching her play relieves my stress too. I just want to know why they can't play? And when can they return? What's the criteria? 6 months of just passing a ball is getting very monotonous. Any assistance with this would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.  
Michelle Peraza

Sent from my iPhone

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** David Ruegge <[vvbattersbox@gmail.com](mailto:vvbattersbox@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 3, 2020 4:28 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Open Youth Sports

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

County Commissioners,

Please if there is anything that you can do to get youth sports open in NV it would be greatly appreciated. My wife and I have run youth baseball leagues and tournaments for over 15 years in the Las Vegas area. Several of our teams are traveling to neighboring states to play where protocols are lax. We have over several years brought in several teams which has helped our economy. Many hotel rooms and food establishments have benefited from our tournaments.

Other businesses have been given a chance to prove what they can do to open and keep the public safe. Please give us a chance. Baseball as a sport by the nature of the sport are social distancing on the field with very few exceptions.

Please if there is anything that we can do let us know.

--  
David Ruegge  
Owner  
Cell - (702) 296-9869  
Fax - (702) 568-6269  
[vvbattersbox@gmail.com](mailto:vvbattersbox@gmail.com)ov

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Robert Green <robert@mss-marketing.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 11:07 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youth Sports in Nevada

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good morning Commissioner Kirkpatrick,

I read in the RJ yesterday that you may be in favor of our youth being able to once again participate in games. This would be most beneficial to the youth, families and Nevada businesses.

I have twin 12 year old boys who play baseball, soccer and basketball. Since March they have missed out on the opportunity to get exercise, be with their friends and create memories. They both missed out on their last year of little league as 12 years after having played every season since T-Ball when they were five years old.

This weekend we are going to Salt Lake City as multiple families from the Reno area are traveling there for a youth soccer tournament. I personally know of five teams with 15 kids to a team going which equates to 75 families leaving our state and spending money right next door in Utah while our state suffers tremendously with lost wages and lost jobs. Other friends we know will be traveling out of state to Oregon and St. George Utah for softball and baseball tournaments as well. The dollars being spent are leaving the state of Nevada and the families could be spending the money here to stimulate our local economies and create jobs for those in the hotel and restaurant business who are suffering tremendously due to the pandemic.

For me it does not make sense that it is considered safer to shop at Costco, Walmart, Home Depot, Lowes, Raleys, etc and any other big box store with hundreds if not thousands of adults visiting daily who do not know each other while it is not deemed safe for two teams of 12-15 youth players to share a baseball or soccer field together with parents in the stands who actually know each other and will do anything they can to ensure their children are safe. It also amazes me that Nevada would deem it safe to open up casinos to thousands of visitors from out of our state while not letting our Nevada youth play games in their own neighborhoods with parents and coaches present offering supervision.

Please urge the Governor to open up youth sports as soon as possible. Outdoor sports like baseball, softball and soccer will need to be closed down due to weather in Northern Nevada by mid-November so the window is closing rapidly.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Green  
Principal  
MSS Marketing  
2979 Eagle Rock Court  
Reno, NV 89511  
Phone: 775-851-2050  
Mobile: 775-770-4612  
Email: [robert@mss-marketing.com](mailto:robert@mss-marketing.com)  
[www.mss-marketing.com](http://www.mss-marketing.com)

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** david hayden <daveharvick@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 1:54 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Okay baseball

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hello all,

Our kids need to be able to play sports. Understanding of the health risk, but the health of our children and future generations to take part in this community are as important. You pushed programs for kids to get out and play in the past, but now force our kids to stay home and not get the adequate exercise needed to grow. Please open parks with the ability for kids to play baseball, softball and other sports. Of course with the limitations of social distancing for fans and family.

Thank you, David Hayden

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Paul Haack <haackpaul2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 1:55 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Mental and Physical Health of children

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

It is time to let the children play. Allow for sports and lift these unlawful and violating rules. The curve was flattened, death rates have reduced significantly. We now know that the majority and overwhelming cause of deaths is not vovid, but covid with comorbidities. Worry about protecting those who fall into this category and let the rest of us live. Time to let everyone make their own decisions, live or die slowly in their own home in FEAR of something that has proven and is now documented to be nowhere near as feared and pushed to be feared!!!

Concerned citizen and PARENT,  
Paul Haack

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Adam Smukal <thesmuk@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 2:43 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youth Sports

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I'm fed up with the ban on youth sports competing against each other. Amusement parks, hotel pools, movie theaters and gambling all allowed to entertain. While youth sports isn't. These teams are playing ball in Arizona and Utah, spending thousands of dollars in other communities.

My sons recent tournament in Utah was the only opportunity to compete in a live game in several months. The director of the tournament told us that the city hosting the tournament had a 300% increase in revenue over last year. Nevadans money funding their cities economy.

I can assure you that games can be played with more than 6' of social distancing. Not to mention the fact that these families are outside in the fresh air where the virus is less likely to be transmitted.

Can we please return to full competition! Can we start telling the governor he is being unreasonable by not allowing our children to enjoy the very things love.

Sincerely  
Adam Smukal



## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Megan <meganyurovchak@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 3:50 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youths sports

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whom it may concern;

Please reinstate youth sports! Not only is it physically harmful to not allow them to play, it's also mentally harmful. These kids need exercise and social interaction! The American Academy of Pediatrics has stated that children rarely get or have any problems with covid-19, and they DO NOT spread it!! We also now know asymptomatic people Do Not spread it! If temperature checks need to be done, so be it. But covid-19 should not be the reason these children aren't playing!

You are doing much more HARM than good by shutting youth sports down. Please re-evaluate the information we have now and do the right thing!

Sincerely,  
Megan Yurovchak

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Stacey Brownfield <stacey.brownfield@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 4:30 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youth Baseball

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whom it may concern:

It is time to open up youth baseball games and tournaments. Children need to be out getting exercise and socializing with friends. This sport is outdoors. There is no reason that people can not social distance.

Please seriously consider reopen youth baseball.

Thanks you

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Jeffrey Kinan <kinanj23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 5:21 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youth Sports

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To Whom it May Concern:

What started off as a 14 day quarantine had no turned into 5 months of masks, social distancing, and banishing children into their homes.

At this time, casino's are allowed to have hundreds of thousands of guests, visitors, and patrons; meanwhile, the baseball fields are empty.

This has to be some of the most backwards thinking I have ever seen. I am very much looking forward to the election cycle where we can vote all of you out.

Sincerely,  
Jeffrey Kinan

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Jennifer Villas <katuzian04@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 6:05 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** \*\*OPEN OUR FIELDS\*\*

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whomever reads this and can help make a difference

My name is Jennifer Villas I'm a mom of a 16 year old boy and a 10 year old boy. I have lived in Centennial Hills for 15 years. I have kept my boys busy with sports on purpose since they were each 4 years old. It has helped them become social little boys, active and engaged in the community. My husband has also helped coach in the community. I am concerned for all of the youth. What happens to kids when they have no school no activities for too long? It would be foolish to think that there's no worry. I have already seen my 10 year old become more shy around kids his age or adults recently, he was a very social, active and engaging kid. Six months of no school and not able to step on a field has caused my 10 year old to slowly change his personality. Why can I take him to Wet n Wild, or the bowling alley at Sante Fe Station or even to Top Golf BUT my boys are not able to walk on a baseball field? Does that truly make sense? I can bowl with no mask next to my friend but I cannot be active and play a sport OUTSIDE. Twenty boys can go to Wet n Wild, ride with no mask but there's no football or soccer allowed? Every night there is 40-60 teenager hanging out at the local park BECAUSE there is nothing for them to do, park full of kids that would normally be busy with school and their specific sport or activity. I have already seen teenagers having to get JOBS and will most likely not go back to school or a sport. The more time that passes and these kids are taken away from the opportunity from doing what they love the more harm to them. We will never know if we did too much but WE will know if we did TOO LITTLE for the youth. Utah and AZ has been hosting sporting events for months, these families are going out of state to play and pouring money in another state. 14 softball teams went to Utah last weekend, families from all over the country. I know you can understand this. Any human can understand this. Please have compassion and understanding for our youth.

LETS OPEN OUR FIELDS  
LET THESE KIDS LIVE THEIR LIFE  
THEY DESERVE IT, THEY DID NOTHING TO DESERVE THIS

Thanks for listening

A concerned Las Vegas mother

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Suzanne Zierleyn <onehappymommy@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 7:17 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Playgrounds and Athletic Competitions

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Let our children play sports. The mental and physical health of our children is as important if not more, than the economy and/or opening of casinos. Please let our children compete in baseball tournaments again. How can we allow visitors to our city to gamble and lounge at our pools but not allow our children outdoor play on playgrounds and athletic competitions. This has gone on too long!

Let our children play again!  
Suzanne Zierleyn  
Born and raised in Henderson, NV

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** gailynmaddis@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 7:40 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** KIDS SHOULD BE ABLE TO PLAY BASEBALL

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

Our boys are already practically lost to video games and media. Now they cannot even go outside and play baseball, basically a non-contact sport. The damage this is doing to our kids is immeasurable.

Playing outside is healthy. Staying inside on computers is unhealthy.

Please let our boys play baseball. Find a way.

Sincerely,

Gailyn Addis  
parent of 13 year old boy

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** McKenzie McNelis <mckenziemcnelis@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 8:09 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Open up the fields

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

### To whom it may concern:

I am writing to urge you to let our kids play baseball games and scrimmages. Our kids have not played baseball in over 6 months and it doesn't even make sense anymore.

My daughter can do gymnastics with 50 kids in a gym, my friends kids can play indoor soccer and indoor basketball, however, my boys cannot play baseball. Nothing about this makes sense.

We have traveled all summer to other states to play baseball (and spending a lot of money in other states, that could be spent here), it can be done safely. There is plenty of room to spread out!

Please understand how important of a role sports play in our children's life. Kids are suffering the most from school and sports getting taken away. They are the least likely to suffer from COVID, but they are the one's paying the highest consequences!

Try explaining to a high school kid that lives and breathes sports, why they can go to the gym to work out, go to the movies, go to Cowabunga Bay... but they cannot play baseball on a huge baseball field. These kids are trying to get scholarships for crying out loud! Stop buying into all the politics surrounding COVID and let the families who want to play, play! Their mental health is suffering from this!

Sincerely,  
McKenzie McNelis

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Stephanie Robinette <robinetfam@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 4, 2020 8:52 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youth sports

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whom it may concern,

Youth sports are being played in states all around us. Why are we not allowing these kids to play baseball?

It is literally the easiest sport to social distance with considering the bases are 90 feet apart. Little league is allowed why not the tournaments for older kids. You took school away from them and their school seasons and still we are nit allowed here.

If we can open casinos and bars with food why can't we play outside.

Let them play!!!!

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Amy Rosinski <amyrosinski@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 7:20 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Baseball in NV

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing you as a parent of a high school baseball player and I am requesting that you change your position regarding baseball in Nevada to allow our kids to play games locally. The ruling that exists no longer bears any scientific reasoning and needs to be changed.

Since March, baseball families all over the city have been traveling to neighboring states, and further, in order to let their children play sports, all without any negative effects. I implore you to look at the scientific evidence that shows there has not been any spike in infection amongst this population while they have continued to travel, stay in hotels, and safely socialize. Additionally, it is just as important to protect the mental state of our children as it is to protect their physical health. We can't protect one and not the other.

Ask yourself, "How can indoor soccer and lacrosse be allowed but an outdoor, non-contact sport is not safe for kids?" "How can people be packed into an airplane in close contact for hours at a time but kids can't run around in the 'fresh air?" The contradictory rulings only further perpetuate the argument that these rulings are not backed in science but rather hold some other merit behind them.

Lastly, our local economy is in desperate need of the financial support these travel tournaments bring to town and continuing to prohibit baseball locally is only further harming our economy. Families are spending thousands of dollars, during a pandemic, in other states when that money could make a huge impact on our local economy and keep hard working Nevadans at work.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Amy Rosinski  
172 Welland Ct.  
Las Vegas, NV 89144

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Lynn Cowley <lynncowley81@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 9:42 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youth sports

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear governor Sisolak,

Please bring back youth sports. It's painful to watch the mental health of my two boys ages 9 and 6 deteriorate as they have have been unable to do the single thing they love the most- playing baseball with their peers. I understand the concern for virus transmission but at some point we have to let kids get back to some kind of normal and within the right parameters it can be done safely. Many of these club teams are leaving the state and playing anyway. We should not be helping other states generate revenue for youth sports. Many of our youth and city programs are struggling and may force to shut down permanently if we do not find a way to get going. I urge you to consider bringing back youth sports sooner rather than later.

Lynn Cowley  
CCSD teacher and youth sports coach

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Nickels, Jay R. <jrnickels@curtis1000.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 9:54 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Youth Sports

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To Whom it May Concern:

It is well past time that we let our youth start playing organized sports again. There is no reason that states around the country are letting their kids play sports while Nevada, only following whatever California is doing, lets our kids sit on the couch. The sad part is most of the kids are still playing and traveling to Utah or Arizona a few times a month to play the game they love. How is that making it safer to NV families? If you are truly worried about this Virus and the youth then you would open up sports in NV so these kids and family wouldn't have to travel to other states to play. You are only making it tougher on families by continuing this ban on youth sports. Open up the fields and let the kids be kids. Let the families make the choice if they want their child to participate in an activity don't let the Government make the decision for them, that is not the freedom we should have in America.

Sincerely,

*Jay Nickels*

[jnickels@curtis1000.com](mailto:jnickels@curtis1000.com)

702-303-5958

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4151 N. Pecos Road, Suite 203  
Las Vegas NV 89115

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** tia hefner <tiahefner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 11:28 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Vegas valley baseball

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whom it may concern,

I write as a mother and citizen of our beautiful city of Henderson. The COVID pandemic has caused a lot of fear and uncertainty. I understand the necessary precautions that need to be taken in order to keep our families and fellow citizens safe and have done my part in doing so.

However, government leaders and officials need to allow our children to thrive and move past the fear and uncertainty caused by this pandemic. CDC recommendations as well as the American Association of Pediatrics all feel children can go back to school and put safety precautions in place to keep them and others safe. They also need social interaction for the betterment of their mental health. Another way to accomplish this is through sport.

My son has been looking forward to going outdoors and playing baseball - a sport he loves dearly. I am asking you to petition our governor and ask that restrictions limiting their ability to play competitively be lifted.

Baseball is not a contact sport and the players for the most part on the field are several feet apart. Vegas Valley Baseball has worked with the Department of Business and Industry to develop protocols that would be put into place to keep the players and parents safe. The current restrictions include no games or competitions which we feel is an injustice for the mental and physical health of our youth.

In the Las Vegas area several of our local baseball teams are traveling to Utah and Arizona to play where protocols are not being controlled. By allowing us to operate we would have a better handle keeping our players and parents safe by following strict guidelines set up by the state.

Please open our fields for league and tournament play for the youth of our community.

Thank you,

Tia Hefner

(702)250-7063

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Natasha Makanui <makanui@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 1:57 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Bring Back Baseball

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband and I have been unemployed due to COVID since March. We can't afford to travel to other states for our high school aged son to play baseball. The costs involve hotel stays, food, gas, etc. He has already lost his freshman season. Please let these kids play in their hometown. We can fill smaller areas inside a casino, so why not have kids play outside on the field.

Baseball is not a contact sport and the players for the most part on the field are several feet apart. Vegas Valley Baseball has worked with the Department of Business and Industry to develop protocols that would be put into place to keep the players and parents safe. The current restrictions include no games or competitions which we feel is an injustice for the mental and physical health of our youth.

In the Las Vegas area several of our local baseball teams are traveling to Utah and Arizona to play where protocols are not being controlled. By allowing us to operate we would have a better handle keeping our players and parents safe by following strict guidelines set up by the state.

Please open our fields for league and tournament play for the youth of our community.

**#LetsPlayBallNevada**

Thank You,

Natasha Makanui

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Chad Hermansen <chad.hermansen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 10:04 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Let them Play

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Clark County,

I am a resident of Green Valley, a former MLB player, and currently a furloughed scout for the Los Angeles Angels. On top of my work as a scout, I work with athletes one-on-one on the mental side of sports. I can tell you first hand these young athletes are crushed right now that they are not allowed to go out and play their respective sport. They don't understand why adults can have their "adult playgrounds" open like casinos, restaurants, bars, clubs, that are inside where people are still close together in a confined space, and yet kids can't go outside in an open area and be able to play the sport they love and be with their teammates.

This is not "just a game" to these kids and parents. I have a high school senior who is trying to get a college scholarship but can't be seen by college coaches because there are no games to watch. This is affecting them as players and us as parents as we need help with getting scholarships to pay for college.

For high school seniors, the fall is a crucial time for college coaches to get out and watch athletes perform. I do understand that the NCAA has recruiting restrictions right now, but they have been using video and live streaming to see players until the restriction ends at the end of September.

If we can go to church, we can play baseball outside. If hundreds of people can be in Costco, we can play soccer and social distance. The longer this goes on, the more political it seems, and that is disgusting. There are states where kids are in school, yet we are forcing our kids to do online school.

This is affecting their mental state, and they are doing their best to handle this enormous obstacle, but they can only take so much. For people that have underlying health issues, they seem to be taking more careful precautions because of their situations, age, etc.. Still, these young kids need to be outside, having interaction with teammates, and playing for the sake of their mental states alone.

We spent a few weeks in the summer going to Utah playing in tournaments, and these events outside were perfectly fine with parents spread out down the foul lines and behind home plate. A baseball game, for example, with this large size of field, can easily have many parent's social distancing.

These young players will gladly take any "risk" involved in getting COVID for playing with their friends and teammates. If they do get it, they have all been fine. It's the older folks that are having issues with this, not young kids.

I urge and plead with you as a parent of kids that play sports, to let them get back to their respective teams and fields while using realistic protocols. Let them choose if they want to play or not. Thank you for listening.

Chad Hermansen

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Todd Hammack <jbhdad@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 5:52 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Play Baseball

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Baseball is not a contact sport and the players for the most part on the field are several feet apart. Vegas Valley Baseball has worked with the Department of Business and Industry to develop protocols that would be put into place to keep the players and parents safe. The current restrictions include no games or competitions which we feel is an injustice for the mental and physical health of our youth.

In the Las Vegas area several of our local baseball teams are traveling to Utah and Arizona to play where protocols are not being controlled. By allowing us to operate we would have a better handle keeping our players and parents safe by following strict guidelines set up by the state.

Please open our fields for league and tournament play for the youth of our community.

**#LetsPlayBallNevada**

Todd Hammack

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Ryan Gifford <ryansgifford@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 6, 2020 9:28 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Fall sports-Baseball

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

As a resident of Clark County, I am writing to express my concerns over the continual shutdowns of sporting events for kids, specifically baseball. Baseball can be played safely and is a non-contact sport so with the appropriate guidelines, there is no reason a fall baseball season cannot be played. Many club baseball teams are weekly traveling to Utah and Arizona to play games and have not had any issues. Because you are shutting things down this just forces families to travel and leave the state unnecessarily. It is time to do what is best for the kids and not for politicians or those with other agendas. Children have a very low risk of serious disease, in fact, it is less than the influenza virus for children. Fields and games need to be open for the benefit and well-being of our kids.

Ryan Gifford  
1253 Jessie Rd.  
Henderson, NV 89002

--

Sent from Ryan's iPhone



## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Laura Gallo <legallo06@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 7, 2020 12:08 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Open the Parks for baseball

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Six months into the pandemic and under 200 deaths per month (that includes the initial inflated numbers where everyone was being marked as dying of Covid19). Still you are keeping the children from playing in the parks and playing outdoor sports. They have to travel to surrounding states who are smart enough to realize that our children are **not** getting Covid19. Any family members who are at risk do not attend and are smart enough to self quarantine.

We don't have to lock up all the citizens at this point. Yes people have died from Covid19, vast majority of them elderly with preconditions, but no where near the amount of people who died last year from Tuberculosis, which is very contagious. Why did you not enforce a quarantine then or at least masks. More children have died in automobile accidents in the last 6 months then from Covid19. If you are truly so concerned about the children, why let them in cars.

You have allowed this quarantine to go on for way to long. Any person who is at high risk can remain home, locked down and in quarantine.

Walmart and other big box stores are packed with people and there is no enforcing distancing and you don't seem to be concerned with questioning their store practices. But the citizens of your state you have no problem controlling.

Let the children go and enjoy the parks! Play on the playgrounds, play baseball and softball! You have locked them up for way too long.

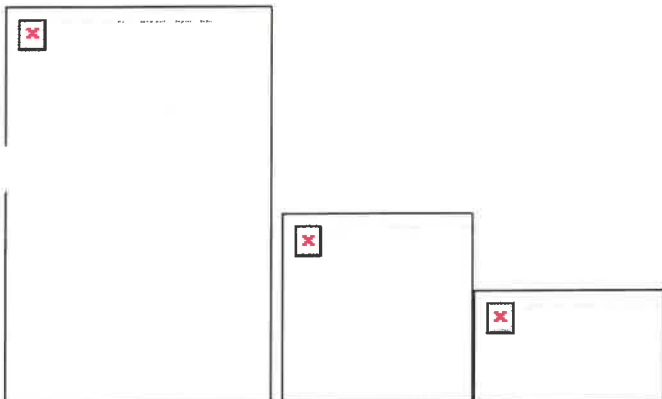
## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Execdiva <execdiva@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 7, 2020 12:41 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** OPEN OUR SPORTS!!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

We need our youth baseball open. There is no reason for this closure of outdoor sports. It makes absolutely no sense to have no games. We are more than willing to follow guidelines, but our kids are suffering in multiple sports in the valley, they need their sports, their friends, their physical outlets. Life is stressful enough for them right now, they need their activities for physical and mental health. "OPEN BASEBALL" games and tournaments. Utah and Arizona are keeping their economies open as we are all traveling and paying their fields, their restaurants and hotels when we could be supporting our own economy!



***Elizabeth Hammack, GRI, SFR, GREEN***

*Elizabeth K Hammack Ltd., Real Estate Veteran since 1992 NV Licensee 30425*

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## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

---

**From:** Brian Gregorich <gwrbi73@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 9, 2020 11:25 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Let them play!

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider letting youth sports such as baseball and softball play in Nevada again. Playing outside and utilizing smart social distancing and sanitizing, baseball/softball can be done in a healthy manner. Some would (probably correctly) argue that baseball and softball should have been able to begin playing much sooner than indoor sports such as basketball (which has been conducting tournaments with spectators in the Las Vegas Valley since June with very lax social distancing). Please, give the youth baseball/softball community some sensible guidelines for conducting games and tournaments and let us do what is healthy and what we love in a sensible and regulated atmosphere.

Sincerely,

Brian J Gregorich

**Vanessa Aguayo-Barker**

---

**From:** Michelle Dove <dove.michelle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 9, 2020 11:31 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Opening of Athletic Fields (Baseball)

We need to open our GREAT STATE OF NEVADA especially Clark County! I am a 56 year resident of Southern Nevada. The Governor and The State of Nevada need to realize how essential youth recreational, travel and high school baseball is to our community. We have been shut down from playing games, hosting tournaments and even having scrimmages since March. Every family in our community, in some way, has been affected by this pandemic. The mental and physical health of our children is as important if not more, than the economy and/or opening of casinos. I fear the collapse of our economy due to your mandates, which I DO NOT support. Utah is open, wearing masks, social distancing, schools are open and team sports are being played. If Utah can do it, so can Nevada. We have been traveling to Utah all summer to support our grandson at his baseball tournaments and I feel safe there. Please act NOW and open recreational sports in Clark County. Your politics is ruining Southern Nevada. Thank you for your consideration.

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Michelle Dove  
Direct: (702) 845-5424

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Suzanne Zierleyn <onehappymommy@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 1:08 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** #LetsPlayBallNevada

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Baseball is not a contact sport and the players for the most part on the field are several feet apart. Vegas Valley Baseball has worked with the Department of Business and Industry to develop protocols that would be put into place to keep the players and parents safe. The current restrictions include no games or competitions which we feel is an injustice for the mental and physical health of our youth.

In the Las Vegas area several of our local baseball teams are traveling to Utah and Arizona to play where protocols are not being controlled. By allowing us to operate we would have a better handle keeping our players and parents safe by following strict guidelines set up by the state.

Please open our fields for league and tournament play for the youth of our community.

**#LetsPlayBallNevada**

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Anthony Gallo <gallo.anthony48@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 12:08 PM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Let's play Baseball in Nevada

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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**#LetsPlayBallNevada**

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** Jerry Davidson, Jr. <jerry.davidson.jr@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 11:36 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Let Us Play!!!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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Please open our fields for league and tournament play for the youth of our community.

## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** clubball18 <clubball18@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 10:27 AM  
**To:** District B CC  
**Subject:** Let them play!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Baseball is not a contact sport and the players for the most part on the field are several feet apart. Vegas Valley Baseball has worked with the Department of Business and Industry to develop protocols that would be put into place to keep the players and parents safe. The current restrictions include no games or competitions which we feel is an injustice for the mental and physical health of our youth.

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**#LetsPlayBallNevada**



## Vanessa Aguayo-Barker

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**From:** clubball18 <clubball18@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 5, 2020 10:28 AM  
**To:** District B CC

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Baseball is not a contact sport and the players for the most part on the field are several feet apart. Vegas Valley Baseball has worked with the Department of Business and Industry to develop protocols that would be put into place to keep the players and parents safe. The current restrictions include no games or competitions which we feel is an injustice for the mental and physical health of our youth.

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Please open our fields for league and tournament play for the youth of our community.

**#LetsPlayBallNevada**

## Marilyn Kirkpatrick

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**From:** Vanessa Aguayo-Barker  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 1:53 PM  
**To:** Marilyn Kirkpatrick  
**Subject:** FW: Return To Play For Youth Sports:

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Ennis Wesley <ennis@jamonit.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 1:48 PM  
**To:** Lawrence Weekly <Info@lawrenceweekly09.com>; District B CC <CCDISTB@ClarkCountyNV.gov>  
**Subject:** Return To Play For Youth Sports:

Good afternoon, this is Ennis Wesley from Jam On It Sportsplex. I got word that Commissioner Bob Lucy was putting together a panel of event operators from Northern Nevada to discuss youth sports. If there is such a panel here in the Southern Nevada, I would much appreciate being apart of it. Thank you very much and look forward to ur reply. My email is ennis@jamonit.org, cell # 702-807-5404. Have a great day!

Ennis Wesley  
Sent from my iPhone

## Marilyn Kirkpatrick

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**From:** Guy Hobbs <guy@hobbson.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 9, 2020 12:15 PM  
**To:** Marilyn Kirkpatrick; marilyn.kirkpatrick@cox.net  
**Subject:** Nevada Youth Soccer League Game proposal  
**Attachments:** NYSA Proposal covid rtp.docx; NYSA COVID Field Layout 1 - No Spectators.docx; Copy of NYSA Covid-19 state summary.xlsx

Commissioner Kirkpatrick:

Attached for your information, review and consideration is a proposal from the Nevada Youth Soccer Association to implement procedures for a return to league games this fall. The proposal is straightforward, and includes milestone dates to get the kids back onto the fields while also emphasizing safety protocols. I sincerely hope that this might provide a framework for all sports, while also serving the interests of the thousands of children who play youth soccer throughout the State of Nevada.

I appreciate your willingness to consider this request at LEAP, and am available to provide any additional information that might further this cause. Thanks again for all the you are doing for the State and our community as we continue to work through these challenging times.

Guy Hobbs, President  
Nevada Youth Soccer Association

9/14/20

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter regarding the support of re-opening youth sports. Youth sports and activities are vital to our young people during this challenging time. Youth sports create confidence, self-discipline, friendships, and promote social and emotional relationships. During this pandemic, our children have suffered. The children have been kept in the house for 6 months. We are now engaged in distance learning, where our children are inside the house and working at a computer for 6 hours or more. They have no physical activity. This is not good for our children's development!

Currently, to have our kids engaged in youth sports we have to travel to Utah or Arizona to play any sports. This is unfair and costly to parents, but we feel obligated for our children's well-being. My sons are athletes and not having sports and their friends to interact with, is taking a toll on them. We have to consider the children's emotional state. Also, Utah and Arizona states have found a way to play and keep children safe. Why can't the State of Nevada do the same? Why can't we practice the same CDC guidelines that casinos and local businesses have put in place?

I am in favor of the re-opening of youth sports here in Nevada. The children have suffered enough during this pandemic. Our children have missed so much and its effecting their growth and development. Please re-open youth sports and let the children live again and play again. Let them, be happy! This is the least that we could do for them.

Sincerely,

Terrelle Chandler

## Marilyn Kirkpatrick

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**From:** Vanessa Aguayo-Barker  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 10:56 AM  
**To:** Marilyn Kirkpatrick  
**Cc:** Gina Stroughter  
**Subject:** FW: Opening Youth Sports - Letter of Support

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Herman Henson Jr <gobeavsgo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 6:33 PM  
**To:** District B CC <CCDISTB@ClarkCountyNV.gov>  
**Subject:** Opening Youth Sports - Letter of Support

Good evening Commissioner,  
I'm writing to express my support for opening youth sports with appropriate safety protocols. I have two school-age boys. My youngest is a multi-sport athlete and my oldest plays volleyball. Both serve on their respective student councils.

We are a family who has followed our leaders recommendations to stay home & stay safe. We believe in the science of best practices to control the pandemic and you have had our full support.

As you know, it's been very hard on our children. They miss school, their teachers, friends, school activities and their teammates. My youngest is an avid baseball player and has struggled with the isolation and loss of a sport he absolutely loves.

As such, in June we made the calculated decision to start traveling with his baseball team to tournaments in UT and AZ so he could play. It's incredibly expensive and inconvenient, but we feel like it's his only tie to normal and we have to balance the risk with his mental health and social development. We've been careful to keep our distance, wash our hands/use hand sanitizer, wear masks when in tight quarters and dispense with things like team dinners.

To date, no one has gotten sick. I'm not saying it couldn't happen, but we've been careful and taken precautions and it's worked.

You have our full support in your efforts to re-open youth sports. Your concern and leadership on this issue is very appreciated by our family and we're here to help & support you.

Sincerely,  
Marci & Buck Henson

Sent from my iPhone